GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1621
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2002
WLL SERVICE IN RURAL AREAS
ANANDRAO ADSUL

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is planning to connect the rural areas in the country through Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) service during the coming years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of villages likely to be benefited through this plan;

(c) whether any programme has been drawn to accomplish this work within the stipulated time; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it will start benefiting the rural areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRMAYA SIKDAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) BSNL has procured 6 lakh lines of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) equipment for rural areas in the country during the current financial year for providing Village Public Telephones (VPTs) and rural telephones. 1,09,828 villages are planned to be provided with telecom facility using these systems.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. Most of the equipment have been delivered and is in various stages of installation/commissioning. These systems are planned to be commissioned by August 2002.